

MINUTES OF MEETING
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, SC
July 8, 1999
10:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. R. Austin Gilbert, Jr.,
Chairman
Ms. Rosemary H. Byerly
Ms. Dianne Chinnes
Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr.
Mr. Lawrence Gressette, Jr.
Ms. Cathy Harvin
Gen. Thomas R. Olsen
Dr. David E. Shi
Mr. Bill Stern

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Susan Cole
Mr. Winfred Greene
Dr. Harry Lightsey, Jr

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Rayburn Barton
Ms. Camille Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Mr. Charlie FitzSimons
Ms. Betsy Gunter
Ms. Renea Hudson
Ms. Yolanda Hudson
Mr. Alan Krech

Dr. Mike Smith
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

GUESTS

Ms. Betty Barnes
Ms. Katherine Barrett-
Duke
Mr. Art Bjontegard
Ms. Betty Boatwright
Mr. Floyd Bowles
Mr. Don Campbell
Dr. Jo Ellen Cantrell
Mr. Douglas Carlisle
Dr. Robert Cuttino
Mr. Stan Davis
Ms. Betty Davidson
Mr. Jim Edwards
Mr. John Finan
Mr. David Fleming
Mr. Robert Gallagher
Mr. Ron Garrick
Dr. Candace Gosnell
Dr. Susan Graham
Dr. Alan Grier
Col. Ever Holland
Ms. Jennifer Holland

Ms. Susan Houk
Dr. David Hunter
Dr. Rich Johnson
Ms. Brenda Jones
Ms. Karen Jones
Ms. Star Kepner
Mr. Thornton Kirby
Mr. Jack Kreslin
Mr. Russell Long
Dr. Harry G. Matthews
Mr. Gary McCombs
Mr. Bob Mellon
Col. Spike Metts
Ms. Leah Norman
Dr. Jerry Odom
Ms. Jackie Olsen
Dr. John Palms
Mr. Charlie Parker
Dr. Sue Peck
Ms. Rose Pellatt
Ms. Laura Shealy
Mr. Dwayne Smiling
Dr. Jason Snyder
Ms. Vanna Strange
Dr. John Sutusky
Ms. Christina Torres
Dr. Marcia Welsh
Dr. Jimmy Williamson

For the record, notification of the meeting was made to the media as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chairman Gilbert, who then asked Mr. Alan Krech to proceed with the introductions.

1. Introductions

Guests were introduced and welcomed to the Commission meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes

A **motion** was made, **seconded (Gressette)** and **carried** to approve the minutes as submitted.

3. Committee Reports

3.01 Report of the Executive Committee
(No Report)

Chairman Austin Gilbert

**3.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs
and Licensing**

Ms. Dianne Chinnes

A. Consideration of New Program Proposals

1. A.E.T., Engineering Design Technology, Midlands Technical College

Ms. Chinnes explained that this course is designed to prepare students for entry-level positions and upgrade skills of individuals working in this field. This is to be a new program, a hybrid of two existing programs, being offered by Midlands Tech because of the need in the state of South Carolina.

On behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee a **motion** (Chinnes) was made, **seconded** (Olsen) and **carried** to approve the proposed program for implementation in Fall 1999, provided no "unique cost" or other special State funds be required or requested and provided further that the Mechanical Engineering Technology and Engineering Graphics Technology programs are discontinued by Fall 1999. (**Attachment I**)

2. M.Ed., Middle Level Education, Winthrop

Ms. Chinnes explained that the Winthrop Board has approved this program, the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs approved it. This is a new program to prepare teachers currently holding a teacher's certificate to become highly qualified middle-level educators. On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** was made (Chinnes), **seconded** (Floyd) and **carried** to approve this proposed program leading to a Master of Education degree in Middle Level Education for implementation in Fall 1999, provided no "unique cost" or other special State funding be required or requested and provided further that Winthrop examine the curriculum to make sure that it is appropriately aligned with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. (**Attachment II**)

B. Consideration of Guidelines for CHE Research Grants, FY 1999-2000

**C. Consideration of Guidelines for CHE Instructional Technology Grants,
FY 1999-2000**

Attached to the agenda in the package mailed to the Commission members were guidelines for two new grant programs for which the Commission has solicited funds. The General Assembly has approved \$2.5 million for the research grant program and \$500,000 for the Instructional Technology grant program. On behalf of the Committee on Academic Affairs, a **motion** (Chinnes) was made, **seconded** (Floyd) and **carried** to approve both sets of guidelines (**Attachment III**).

D. Consideration of Recommendations of Business Advisory Council and its Implementation Task Force

A **motion** was made (Chinnes), **seconded** (Floyd), and **carried** to approve the Recommendations for implementation of the recommendations of the Business Advisory Council as displayed in **Attachment IV**. This attachment contains the history and progression of this request.

**3.03 Report of the Committee on Access, Equity
& Student Services**
(No Report)

Ms. Susan Cole

3.04 Committee on Finance and Facilities

Ms. Rosemary Byerly

Consideration of Proposed Methodology for the Study of Funding of
South Carolina Public Institutions

Ms. Byerly reported on the committee's consideration of the recommendation made by the Business Advisory Council Task Force and assigned to the Committee on Finance and Facilities: "Enlist assistance of the Southern Region Education Board (SREB) to conduct an objective funding study and then to study and recommend alternative funding sources for higher education." The Committee met twice to consider this.

The main concern was recognizing that the MRR is going to be studied. Because of the information to be gathered through a separate study of the MMR, the Committee felt that it was essential that the MRR study be completed first. Once the MRR study is complete, the Committee recommended consulting the SREB and asking that the SREB work with the information included in the MRR study. .

The staff and the Funding Advisory Committee are working together to review a list of potential alternative funding sources. This review will be conducted at the same time the MRR study is in progress. This has been presented as information.

Dr. Barton reported that there is a meeting this afternoon on the MRR validation study. There is a meeting this afternoon of the Funding Advisory Committee and the next step will be discussed with them. The RFP for this funding study is in the process of being developed and hopefully will be presented at the September Commission meeting.

3.05 Report of Committee on Planning, Assessment and Performance Funding

The Committee on Planning, Assessment and Performance Funding reported that it met on June 22, 1999 and again this morning just prior to the Commission meeting to resolve unfinished business of the June 22 meeting. Related to Performance Funding, the Committee approved for selected indicators additional criterion-referencing and sector benchmarks to be used as maximum performance levels for

the current 1999-00 performance year only. Further research is to be conducted to determine the appropriate levels for sector benchmarks and criteria to be used in the 2000-01 performance year and beyond. At the June Committee meeting, the Committee considered staff recommendations for the 1999-00 performance year benchmarks and additional information on 44 benchmarks for institutions specifically requesting further Committee consideration at the meeting. Of the 44 for which institutions requested additional consideration, the Committee approved seven requests and upheld the staff's recommendations for the remainder, with a couple of exceptions being deferred for further study. The balance of the benchmarks were approved by the Committee as staff had recommended based on consideration of information provided by the staff and the institutions prior to the June meeting. In taking action, the Committee followed general guidelines which required that benchmarks show movement in the desired direction and show movement at a rate comparable to the average annual percent change as determined from each institution's historical data. At this morning's meeting, the Committee took action to approve staff recommendations on three of the deferred benchmarking issues as well as Performance Improvement funding for the 1998-99 performance year and the South Carolina Research Initiative proposal.

Mr. Floyd requested the Commission's consideration of the following four items and also consideration of a fifth item added to today's agenda:

1. Consideration of Performance Improvement Funding
2. Consideration of Data Verification Report: Winthrop University
3. Consideration of Additional Criterion Referencing and Sector Benchmarks for 1999-2000 Only
4. Consideration of Institutional Benchmarks for 1999-2000
5. Consideration of South Carolina Research Initiative proposal (added 7/8/99)

Item 1. On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** (Floyd) was made, **seconded** (Byerly) and **carried** to approve performance improvement funding awards, including the the \$250,000 validation of the MRR study. (ATT V)

Item 2. On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** (Floyd) was made, **seconded** (Byerly) and **carried** to accept the Data Verification Report: Winthrop University. (ATT VI)

Item 3. On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** was made, **seconded** (Olsen) and **carried** to approve the Additional Criterion Referencing and Sector Benchmarks for 1999-2000 only. (ATT VII)

Item 4. This morning, the Committee did approve three more benchmarks for the College of Charleston (Indicator 3E3b), Williamsburg Technical College (Indicator 8c4) and approved that Indicators 2A2a and 2A2b be treated as "yes/no" indicators this year while further data is collected. On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** (Floyd) was made, **seconded** (Stern) and **carried** to approve the Institutional Benchmarks for 1999-2000, including the items the Committee approved this morning. (ATT VIII)

Mr. Gressette made the observation that the meeting of the Committee to consider benchmarks was lengthy and he would recommend that when considering benchmarks for next year, more time be allowed for consideration and deliberation. This recommendation was supported by the Chairman and all present.

Item 5. The South Carolina Research Initiative proposal was a new agenda item added and discussed. This proposal is **ATT IX**.

Chairman Floyd asked Dr. John Palms to comment on this research initiative. Dr. Palms commented that this Research Initiative has the full endorsement of the research universities. He indicated they had recommendations to make as to details, but in content, they certainly wholeheartedly endorse the initiative and appreciate the initiative of the Commission to seek these funds.

Dr. Barton further explained the process involved in acquiring funding for this and that we need to look at encouraging more research long-term and considering this as a down payment toward higher funding for research.

The **motion** was made (Floyd) and **seconded** (Gressette) that this first-year Research Initiative be a first-year down payment of 3.4 million with the framework and concept to be worked out over a multi-year period. During the discussion period Gen. Olsen pointed out that the \$25 million is only a concept and we should be shooting for higher. Comment noted. All were in favor and the motion was **carried** to approve the South Carolina Research Initiative.

4. Report of the Executive Director

Rayburn Barton

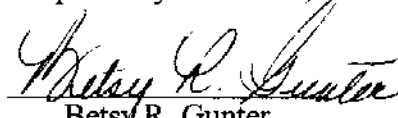
Legislative Update – Dr. Barton reported that, while we need to have a better year next year, we did not have a bad year this year. \$63 million new dollars were requested this year and the General Assembly appropriated \$33.1 million in response. There were facilities projects funded within the budget for \$9.4 million. In addition to that, in the facilities bond bill, we received \$165 million in funding for capital projects. Other budget items of note include the State Technical System Special Schools, which received an allocation of \$10.5 million, and also South Carolina State University, which received funding of \$1 million for health and safety issues. These items are considered a part of the overall higher education budget. With respect to the Commission's request, some funding was received for almost everything the Commission requested this year. Highlights of funded items include: Research Grant Program-\$2.5 million, Technology Grant Program-\$500,000, an additional \$1 million was added to the Academic Endowment Incentive, an additional \$500,000 for the Need-Based Grants Programs, \$1 million in matching funds for GEAR UP (a new federal grant program), and \$500,000 in additional funding for the Access and Equity Program.

In order to allocate the Access and Equity dollars in a timely manner, Dr. Barton requested that the Commission delegate the authority to allocate those funds to the Committee on Access and Equity and Student Services, since there will not be another full Commission meeting until September. This was unanimously approved.

5. Other Business

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Betsy R. Gunter
Recorder

Attachments I-IX